Claims

- [c1] A method for facilitating providing a customer with a quote for a manufactured product, said method comprising the steps of: receiving data relating to a customer desired product including at least one of a feature and a function; receiving at least one indication of importance for at least one of the feature and the function; accessing at least one database containing at least one of inventory control data, component data, and image data; and generating a first quote based on the received data, the received indication, and data stored in the accessed database.
- [c2] A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of translating the received data into a product bill of materials (BOM).
- [c3] A method according to Claim 2 further comprising the step of utilizing the BOM in conjunction with the accessed database to generate at least one of a product price, a product delivery date, a product Z transform estimate, and a three dimensional (3D) image.
- [c4] A method according to Claim 3 further comprising the steps of:

 providing at least one of the product price, the product delivery date, the

 product Z transform estimate, and the 3D image to the customer; and

 prompting the customer to iterate a second quote.
- [c5] A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the steps of:
 providing the first quote to the customer; and
 prompting the customer to iterate a second quote.
- [c6] A method according to Claim 4 wherein said step of prompting the customer further comprises the step of prompting the customer to enter a different indication of importance for at least one of a feature and a function.
- [c7] A method according to Claim 1 wherein said step of receiving at least one indication further comprises the step of receiving an indication of

importance for at least one of a product price, a product size, and a product functionality.

[c8] A method according to Claim 1 further comprising the step of providing the customer with the generated first quote including a product price, a delivery date, a three dimensional image, and a short-term Z transform estimate.

[c9] A method for facilitating providing a customer with a quote for a computer numerically controlled (CNC) fabricated product, said method comprising the steps of:

receiving data relating to a customer desired product including at least one of a feature and a function;

receiving at least one indication of importance for at least one of a product price, a product size, and a product functionality;

accessing at least one database containing at least one of inventory control data, component data, and image data;

generating a first quote based on the received data, the received indication, and the accessed database.

providing the customer with the generated first quote including a product price, a delivery date, a three dimensional image, and a short-term Z transform estimate; and

prompting the customer to iterate a second quote.

[c10]

A system for facilitating providing a customer with a quote for a manufactured product, said system comprising:

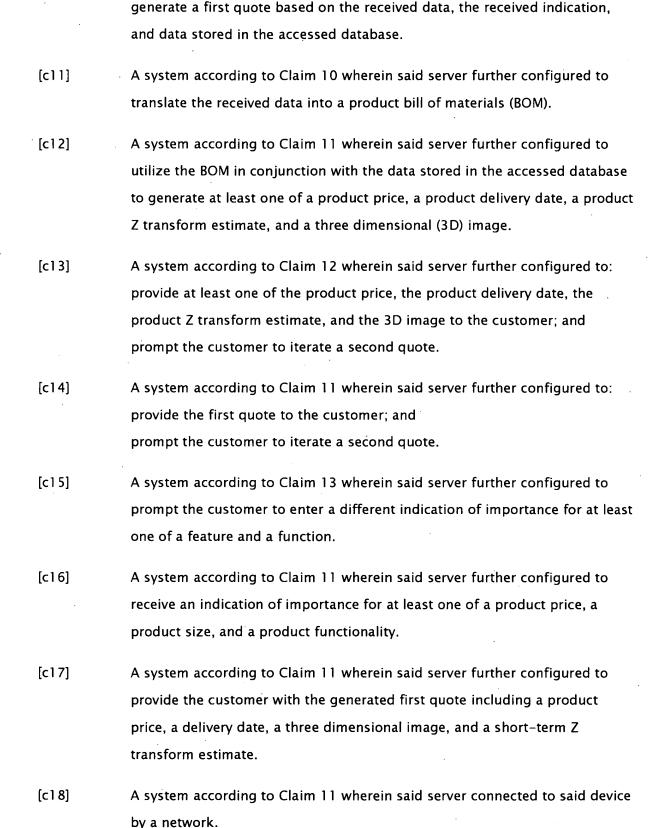
at least one device; and

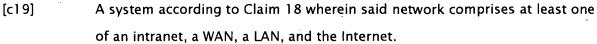
a server connected to said device and configured to:

receive data relating to a customer desired product including at least one of a feature and a function;

receive at least one indication of importance for at least one of the feature and the function;

access at least one database containing at least one of inventory control data, component data, and image data; and





[c20] Apparatus comprising:
 at least one device; and
 a server connected to said device via a network and configured to:
 receive data relating to a customer desired product including at least one of
 a feature and a function;
 receive an indication of importance for at least one of a product price, a
 product size, and a product functionality;
 access at least one database containing at least one of inventory control
 data, component data, and image data;
 generate a first quote based on the received data, the received indication,
 and data stored in the accessed database;
 provide the first quote to the customer including a product price, a delivery
 date, a three dimensional image, and a short-term Z transform estimate; and

prompt the customer to iterate a second quote.